

THE VVFC NEWS ALERT BACKPAGE APRIL/MAY 2008



HIB USAGE

Due to the temporary Hib Vaccine shortage, the CDC has instituted new interim recommendations. Providers should temporarily defer administering the routine Hib vaccine booster dose administered at age 12-15 months except to children in specific high risk groups. These groups include: those with asplenia, sickle cell disease, HIV, other immune syndromes, or who are Alaskan or Native American. Providers should keep track of those children who did NOT receive the booster dose and plan to vaccinate them when the Hib supply improves. Providers should continue regular vaccination for infants under 12 months. In order to maximize the amount of available vaccine, providers should only order the number of doses required to meet their monthly needs based on the interim recommendation. Monthly orders are expected and will not count against provider's order frequency. If you over-order, your order will be reduced based on enrollment and order history.

VVFC ELIGIBILITY

Recently, there has been some confusion when determining whether a patient is VVFC eligible. The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) has verified that VFC vaccines are to be administered to all VFC eligible patients *regardless* of Medicaid's position as the primary OR secondary insurer. VFC vaccines are state supplied, meaning there is no cost to the practices; therefore, providers may bill Medicaid first for the vaccine administration and allowable vaccine costs. Medicaid will reimburse for the allowable services at their established rates, then will seek reimbursement from other appropriate payers. In other words, if a patient has both private insurance **AND** Medicaid, they are VFC eligible.

FLU RESOLUTION

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has revised a previous resolution to add the expanded age recommendations for the routine use of Influenza Vaccine, effective July 1, 2008. The new resolution states that eligible groups for the **Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (TIV)** are *all children aged 6 months through 18 years*. Also, eligible groups for **Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine (LAIV)** are *all healthy children and adolescents (those who do not have an underlying medical condition that predispose them to influenza complications) aged 2 years through 18 years*.



FLU ORDER FORMS



Influenza orders were due

March 31st this year and we are currently processing these orders. Orders will be limited based on vaccine availability as well as each facility's patient enrollment. If you have not submitted your Influenza Vaccine Advanced Order Form for the 2008-2009 season, please do so ASAP! Shipments will begin once stock is received from the manufacturer, which is anticipated to be sometime around early October.

REMINDER: Please be sure to keep all forms up to date (including VIS's, Order Forms, etc.). Forms can be located at the following websites:

- <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/immunization/VFC/index.htm>
- <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/default.htm>

VVFC AWARDS

Gold Stars awarded February - March 2008.

Outstanding VVFC Compliance

*ABC Children's Health Center,
Fishersville
Annandale Pediatrics Associates,
Annandale
Capital Area Pediatrics - Watson
Salisbury, Manassas
Children's Health Care Center,
Manassas
Gainesville Pediatrics,
Gainesville
Hispanic American Pediatric
Associates, Arlington
Pediatric Healthcare, P.C., Sterling
Pediatricare of Northern Virginia,
Manassas
Physicians to Children, Roanoke
Prince William Pediatric Care Inc.,
Manassas
Town Pediatrics, Leesburg*



Exceptional Immunization

Rates

*Farrell Pediatrics, Reston
The Kidz Docs, Alexandria
Old Towne Pediatrics, Manassas
Practice of Sameera Nasser Rentia, Falls
Church
(Childhood immunization rates exceed
92% and adolescent rates exceed 90%
using CoCASA software)*

